

Developmental Disabilities Council

Reading Cover Page

Date: November 18, 2004

Meeting: Self-Determination & Employment
Workgroup

Reading Number: 04 SD-15

Issue: Washington Coalition for Citizens with
Disabilities (WCCD) Funding Request

Included in Reading: Additional information about the
project plan.

Background/Summary: The Workgroup voted to fund
WCCD's request for \$5,000 for their Transition Youth Peer
Group Project if WCCD provided more detail about what
they would be doing, how the Council's money would be
spent, and could demonstrate a plan for sustainability.

Focus Question(s): Need any additional information on
the project?

Action: Review & comment.

If there are any questions, please contact Clare Billings at
1-800-634-4473, or email at
clareb@cted.wa.gov

Nathan Hale High School Youth Transition Peer Group Project

Funding for this project so far is coming from Washington Coalition of Citizens with Disabilities (WCCD) Department of Education Rehabilitation Services Administration grant. WCCD will be contributing over \$18,000 in funding for the project and providing staffing. The transition peer group project will have ongoing funding from WCCD for the next several years.

Washington State Division of Developmental Disabilities, Region 4 is paying for Jeff Grace to continue to work with us on the project. DDD/Region 4 will continue to support Jeff's work on this project beyond the Council's funding.

We will have one WCCD staff member and Jeff at each meeting. We also will have the help of an intern who did research for this project before. He is no longer officially with us as an intern, but will volunteer to assist with some meetings, if his schedule allows.

The group will meet monthly at Nathan Hale high school. Meetings will be 1.5 hours. Some meetings will be substituted for field trips in which we feel students may learn better certain skills by actually engaging in different community activities.

The proposed topic schedule we have set-up for each meeting so far is as follows:

October: Introductions, ice-breaker, hopes, goals, share outline for year, etc.

November: Transition-planning

December: Field trip to Star Center, Skills/Interest Survey (possibly using computers at Star Center)

January: panel with DVR, student, Do-It or college representative, person with disability working in community, NELA (college financial aid assistance group), etc.

February: self-advocacy skills discussion

March: field trip to Olympia for Independent Living advocacy day

April: follow-up from advocacy trip, social security speaker

May: adaptive technology video, transition plan follow-up

June: party/picnic at location TBD

This is not set in stone, but is a working outline we hope to discuss with the group members and, based on their feedback and feedback from parents, we can adjust it, if it seems appropriate. What we hope is that it will give us a starting place to use with the group members.

The Council's money will be spent on a portion of the staffing expense, participants' travel and meeting materials.

Please let the Council workgroup know how much we appreciate the start up funding they are providing. We will work with Michael Rogers on the Self-Advocates as Mentor's Project to connect with and include any mentors who are interested in working with the youths.

Thank you again for partnering with us to support transition services for youth with disabilities in our community.